Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-07 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NASA-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 /109 W

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R 102306Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2034 INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL MEXICO 07128

E. O. 11652:

TAGS: MX, UR, PFOR, PARM
SUBJECT: SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO COMMENTS ON PROTOCOL II

REF: MEXICO 5388

1. MEXICAN DAILY EL NACIONAL OF MAY 10, 1977, REPORTS
THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO MEXICO, YURI VOLSKI TOLD A
JOURNALIST AT A CZECHOSLOVAKIAN EMBASSY RECEPTION THAT
THE USSR WOULD SIGN PROTOCOL II OF THE TLATELOLCO TREATY,
IF THE USG WERE TO ABANDON ITS MILITARY BASES IN
GUANTANAMO, PUERTO RICO, AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS. THIS
APPEARS TO CONFLICT WITH HIS SUBSEQUENT STATEMENT (IN
RESPONSE TO A QUESTION) THAT "THE SIGNATURE OF THIS
PROTOCOL IS A QUESTION OF POLICY, OF PRINCIPLE AND IF THE
UNITED STATES INCLUDES THESE TERRITORIES AS PART OF THE
SIGNATURE IT IS CONTEMPLATING, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO
CONSIDER SIGNING"

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE PRESENCE OF SOVIET ATOMIC WEAPONS IN CUBA, VOLSKI REPLIED THAT THE USSR HAS NO SUCH WEAPONS IN CUBA. HE SAID THE SOVIET UNION IS PREPARED CONFIDENTIAL.

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TO WITHDRAW ITS ATOMIC WEAPON-CARRYING SHIPS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN, BUT CANNOT DO SO AS LONG AS SHIPS OF OTHER POWERS CONTINUE TO PATROL THIS AREA WITH ATOMIC WEAPONS. IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, VOLSKI REMARKED THAT THE SOVIET UNION'S ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IS COMPLETE AND GENERAL DISARMAMENT OF THERMONUCLEAR WEAPONS, AND ADDED THAT THE SOVIET UNION WOULD NEVER

ACCEPT THE VIOLATION OF ITS AIRSPACE BY THERMONUCLEAR-EQUIPPED AIRCRAFT.

3. COMMENT: IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF CALL FONSEC DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, SERGIO GONZALEZ GALVEZ, SAID THAT THE GOM HAD NOTED THE CONTRADICTION IN THE NACIONAL ARTICLE AND HE QUESTIONED VOLSKI'S UNDERSTANDING OF TREATY. HE SAID THAT THE FONSEC PLANS TO CALL VOLSKI IN NEXT WEEK FOR CLARIFICATION OF RUSSIAN VIEWS REGARDING SIGNATURE OF PROTOCOL II. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE, GONZALEZ EXPECTS VOLSKI TO REPEAT STANDARD SOVIET POSITION. BUT HE VOLUNTEERED TO INFORM EMBASSY OUTCOME OF MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR. GONZALEZ ASKED IF EMBASSY HAD ANY FURTHER NEWS REGARDING THE USG'S INTENTION TO SIGN PROTOCOL I. WHEN EMBOFF REPLIED THAT NO FURTHER INFORMATION HAD BEEN RECEIVED SINCE THE OPANAL MEETING IN CARACAS, GONZALEZ REQUESTED THAT GOM BE KEPT INFORMED RE ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO US SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL I. EMBASSY WILL NOTIFY DEPARTMENT. WHEN OUTCOME OF FONOFF MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR IS KNOWN. THOMPSON

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